

B¹ sub c¹ > 1. (Amended) A scanner for reading computer-readable codes, the scanner comprising:
an imaging camera configured to produce an image of a computer-readable code from a surface;
a shroud at least partially surrounding the imaging camera and configured to exclude ambient light from entering the imaging camera when the scanner is held against the surface; and
an illumination lamp disposed within the shroud to illuminate the computer-readable code at an angle to avoid specular reflection of light from the illumination lamp off the surface to the imaging camera.

B² sub c¹ > 3. (Amended) A scanner for reading computer-readable codes, the scanner comprising:
a photopic imaging camera configured to produce an image of a computer-readable code from a surface;
a shroud at least partially surrounding the photopic imaging camera and configured to exclude ambient light from entering the photopic imaging camera when the scanner is held against the surface; and
an illumination lamp disposed within the shroud to illuminate the computer-readable code at an angle such that light from the illumination lamp is not directly reflected from the surface to the photopic imaging camera.

B³ sub c¹ > 5. (Twice Amended) A scanner for reading computer-readable codes, the scanner comprising:
an imaging camera configured to produce an image of a computer-readable code from a surface;
a shroud at least partially surrounding the imaging camera and configured to exclude ambient light from entering the imaging camera when the scanner is held against the surface and configured to place the scanner at a selected oblique angle relative to the surface when the scanner is held against the surface; and

Concluded sub c1 B³ 7 an illumination lamp disposed within the shroud to illuminate the computer-readable code at an angle such that light from the illumination lamp is not directly reflected from the surface to the imaging camera.

B⁴ sub c1 7 8. (Amended) A scanner for reading computer-readable codes, the scanner comprising:
an imaging camera configured to produce an image of a computer-readable code from a surface;
a photodiode,
a shroud at least partially surrounding the imaging camera and configured to exclude ambient light from entering the imaging camera when the scanner is held against the surface; and

an illumination lamp disposed within the shroud to illuminate the computer-readable code at an angle such that light from the illumination lamp is not directly reflected from the surface to the imaging camera.

9. (Twice Amended) A scanner for reading computer-readable codes, the scanner comprising:

an imaging camera configured to produce an image of a computer-readable code from a surface;

a shroud at least partially surrounding the imaging camera and configured to exclude ambient light from entering the imaging camera when the scanner is held against the surface and to hold the imaging camera in a selected relation to the surface;

a photodiode disposed within the shroud; and

an illumination lamp disposed within the shroud beyond, relative to the imaging camera, a limit line extending from an edge of an imaging region at an angle of inverse tangent $s/2d$ wherein s is one-half the width of the imaging region and d is the distance of the camera from the surface to avoid specular reflection of light from the illumination lamp off the surface to the imaging camera.

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c1 > 28. (New) The scanner of claim 1 further comprising an optical filter disposed between the imaging camera and the surface, the optical filter transmitting relatively more blue and red light to the imaging camera.

B5 29. (New) The scanner of claim 3 wherein the photopic imaging camera has a spectral response variation of less than 25% from about 400 nm to about 700 nm.

30. (New) The scanner of claim 5 wherein the imaging camera has a spectral response variation of less than 25% from about 400 nm to about 700 nm.

31. (New) The scanner of claim 5 further comprising an optical filter disposed between the imaging camera and the surface, the optical filter transmitting relatively more blue and red light than green light to the imaging camera.

32. (New) The scanner of claim 8 wherein the imaging camera has a spectral response variation of less than 25% from about 400 nm to about 700 nm.

33. (New) The scanner of claim 8 further comprising an optical filter disposed between the imaging camera and the surface, the optical filter transmitting relatively more blue and red light than green light to the imaging camera.
